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For Immediate Release

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The Elkhart County Health Department has received the results of the drinking water analysis performed by USEPA in the: 1) Lusher and SR 19, and 2) West Indiana and Frankiln area on November 3. These preliminary findings have confirmed the results of the sampling campaign undertaken by ECHD in the last two months.

These preliminary results also indicate that the contamination is limited to these areas:

- 1) Lusher Ave. between 20th street and 16th street
- 2) West Indiana Avenue area between Laramie and Avalon

The Elkhart County Health Department has tested and notified all of the affected residences within these preliminary boundaries either in person or by a hand-delivered letter. Fifteen drinking water wells were found to have levels that exceed or are within 50% of the USEPA's removal levels, and these sites will be offered either point-of-use filters (13 sites) or city water hook-up (2 sites). The USEPA will be continuing sampling and assessing the situation to determine the people who may qualify for a permanent solution, which should be in place by next spring.

The chemicals that have been detected and the ranges of concentrations found in these wells are as follows:

- 1) Trichloroethylene (TCE) 0 ppb to 716ppb.
 (Removal Level = 128 ppb)
- 2) 1,1,1-Trichloroethane (TCA) 0 ppb to 3800 ppb
 (Removal Level = 500 ppb)

USEPA and ECHD will perform additional testing to "fine-tune" the preliminary borders.

USEPA and ECHD will continue to work towards a permanent solution for the affected area and to determine the source of the contamination.